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SOURCE Sozialistische Volkszeitung.

DISCUSSES CONSUMERS' GOODS
AND LIVING CONDITIONS

UPPER REDUCED PROFIT MARGINS -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 2, 2 Aug 49

The first trade conference of the Greater Berlin SED (Socialist Unity Party) passed a resolution urging business enterprises to start reducing profit margins in August with the objective of establishing margins not to exceed 15 percent for wholesale and 20 percent for retail trading.

Hans Mummert, director of the Bureau for Trade and Industry, stated in this connection that public ownership of businesses leads to lowering of costs, elimination of speculative risks, and application of improved working methods, while free trading under the capitalist economy operates with a profit margin of between 25 and 50 percent.

LOWERS TAX ON TOBACCO -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 21, 24 Aug 49

On 24 August, lower prices and a reduction in the turnover tax on cigars, cigarettes, and pipe tobacco became effective in Soviet Zone Germany, including the Soviet Sector of Berlin.

TRADE ORGANIZATION REDUCES PRICES -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 86, 8 Nov 49

A reduction in prices of from 10 to 50 percent on industrial goods sold through the HO (Handels Organization, Trade Organization) went into effect on 7 November 1949.

SETS CEILING PRICE FOR POTATOES -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 75, 26 Oct 49

In East Germany and the Soviet Sector of Berlin, consumers' ceiling prices for potatoes have been fixed at 5.50 East marks per centner.

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INCREASES 3D-QUARTER PRODUCTION QUOTA -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 23, 26 Aug 49

As a result of the growth of industrial production in Soviet Zone Germany, the first 6-month production quota has been considerably overfulfilled for a large number of products.

Accordingly, the DWK (German Economic Commission) has increased the third-quarter production quota for commodities of socioeconomic importance. This increase will result chiefly in an expansion of building activities and in a larger supply of textiles for consumer distribution.

UPS OUTPUT OF OFFICE MACHINES -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 67, 17 Oct 49

The Olympia Factory at Erfurt is turning out 4,000-5,000 office machines per month. Production of Wanderer typewriters has risen from 950 in 1947 to 2,000 in the current year.

The Grosser firm is planning to produce 5,500 Groma typewriters before the end of this year.

PAY PREMIUMS FOR OVERFULFILLMENT OF PLAN -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 33, 7 Sep 49

The technical personnel of the people-owned enterprises in the Soviet Zone of Germany will be paid a premium of 2½ percent of their basic wages for each percent of overfulfillment of the Economic Plan for the second quarter of 1949.

RESUMES MANUFACTURE OF AUTOS -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 34, 8 Sep 49

The people-owned Audi Factory in Zwickau, whose operations have been confined to assembly work in the immediate past, has undergone reconstruction and is now in a position to resume manufacture of F8 passenger cars.

GLASS INDUSTRY SHOWS 25-PERCENT INCREASE -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 59, 7 Oct 49

The first crude glass factory in Sachsen-Anhalt has been put in operation in Derezburg, District of Wernigerode. As a result, the hollow-glass industry in the Harz Mountains has shown an increase of 25 percent.

MAKES NEW ARTIFICIAL SILK FABRIC -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 16, 18 Aug 49

The Pirna Artificial Silk Factory in Sachsen is producing a cuprammonium process rayon fabric. It was exhibited for the first time at the Leipzig Fair.

MANUFACTURES ELECTRIC BULBS -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 70, 20 Oct 49

Ten million electric bulbs have been produced by the people-owned Electric Bulb Factory in Berlin.

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THURINGEN INCREASES CHOCOLATE PRODUCTION -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 77, 28 Oct 49

The people-owned chocolate factory Mouxion in Saalfeld, Thuringen, has doubled its output, as compared with last year.

DWELLINGS RECONSTRUCTED -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 2, 2 Aug 49

According to official information issued by the DWK, 72 percent of all dwellings in Soviet Zone Germany which had been destroyed or damaged by acts of war had been restored by 30 June 1949.

EXTENDS LOANS FOR HOME RECONSTRUCTION -- Sozialistische Volkszeitung, No 56, 4 Oct 49

Loans for periods up to 20 years have been made available for the purpose of reconstructing private dwellings in the Soviet Zone. These funds, with interest at $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent, will be furnished by the German Investment Bank.

In the event the owner is unwilling to rebuild, the communities may carry out the reconstruction and undertake management of the property, provided such reconstruction is in the interest of the people.

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